GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2680
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2016
Desilting of Rivers
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any projects for desilting of rivers are being implemented by the Government at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of rivers covered thereunder along with present status of their desilting, State-wise?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION (DR SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (c) The measures for flood management including desilting of rivers are formulated by the State Governments as per their priority. The Government of India supplements the efforts of State Governments by providing technical advice and also promotional financial assistance for critical areas.

Erosion and deposition of silt is a natural process in alluvial rivers. Rivers carry, pick up and drop silt load as per their regime conditions i.e. discharge in the river, river slope, morphology, nature of silt etc. In 2006, a Committee headed by Dr B.K. Mittal, former Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) had studied the siltation pattern in few rivers in India and concluded that siltation was not pronounced and alarming. The Committee also found that de-silting in general was not feasible technically due to several reasons like non sustainability, non availability of vast land required for the disposal of dredged material etc. However, cost effective measures for removal of drainage congestion in specific reaches of rivers for channel capacity improvement and navigation purposes are formulated and implemented by concerned States / Agencies as per requirement. An ongoing scheme "Priority Works-Comprehensive Plan for Flood Management Works on river Jhelum (Phase-I)" in Jammu & Kashmir State has desilting component along with other work components.

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